

Amendments to the Specification:

After the title and before the first paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

THIS APPLICATION IS A U.S. NATIONAL PHASE APPLICATION OF PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PCT/JP02/02333.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 7, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The density of the board-shape molded inorganic fiber thus produced is; although not specifically designated, preferred to be at least 80 kg/m^3 so as it can be formed into a molded unit, and at most 400 kg/m^3 so as the heat-insulating property may be retained; most preferably 150 kg/m^3 at least and 300 kg/m^3 at most.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 12, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is also possible to increase inflammability of entire heat-insulating box 2 by placing multiple pieces of inflammable vacuum heat-insulator [17] 16 composed of board-shape molded inorganic fiber 18 on a rear side, both sides and a top side of refrigerator main body 1, therewith the safety of the refrigerator is further augmented. By placing the vacuum heat-insulator on one or more places of heat insulating box 2 corresponding to sides, a rear side and a bottom side of freezing compartment 12, the heat-insulator is cost effectively placed and heat-insulating performance is made more effective.[.]

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 14, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

When vacuum heat-insulator 16 is affixed to the side part of heat insulating box 2, vacuum heat-insulator 16 is disposed so as to fit into a shape of heat insulating box 2. For instance, vacuum heat-insulator 16 having a notch at right bottom corner as in Fig.1 is disposed so as to fit into a shape of machinery compartment 21. At this time, the vacuum heat-insulator can cover an entire side part of the heat insulating box, or can cover only part of the insulating box corresponding to freezing compartment [9] 12 which leaks a large amount of heat, or the side part of the heat insulating box can be covered by a plurality of the vacuum heat-insulators.